

**Minutes of the Jasper Community Arts Commission
City of Jasper, Indiana held December 7, 2004**

The regular meeting of the Jasper Community Arts Commission was held at 4:30 pm on Tuesday, December 7, 2004 at the Jasper Arts Center with Gerald Gagne presiding. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and then roll call was held with the following **Commission Members Present:** Doug Abbett, Gloria Buecher, Gerald Gagne, Ann Hilgefort, Mike Jones, Sylvia Metzger, Robin Norris, Myra Schuetter, Pat Thyen. **Commission Members Absent:** Don Routson, Don Weisheit. **Staff Members Present:** Darla Blazey, Barbara Hoffman, Doreen Lechner, Kit Miracle, Donna Schepers. **Regional Services Coordinator:** Jill Watson. **Guests in Attendance:** Councilmen: Randall Buchta, Ambrose Schitter; John Schroeder; City Attorney, Sandy Hemmerlein.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Sylvia Metzger moved, **Myra Schuetter** seconded the approval of the minutes of the November 2, 2004 board meeting. Motion passed 9-0.

City Financial Statement

Darla reported. She said just a note on the admissions, we are much above of what we budgeted for this year. Donations will be higher by the end of the year. We are also over in services & commissions. Expenses are on line for the year.

City Claims and Regional Partnership Grant Claims

City Claims in the amount of \$11,686.19 were presented. Regional Partnership Grant claims in the amount of \$3,554.00 were also presented. It was moved by **Gloria Buecher** to accept the claims and financial statement as presented. **Sylvia Metzger** seconded. Motion passed 9-0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Visual Arts Report

Kit reported.

- Last month we had "Art With an Edge" exhibit. It was very well received. Several high school groups came to see it. One painting from the exhibit was sold.
- The Visual Arts Committee exhibit is now on display. A number of pieces have sold. The annual visual arts reception and volunteer thank you was held Friday with a very large crowd.
- Winter workshop flyers are being prepared. Starting in mid-January, three pre-school workshops, one bedtime story art class, one adult painting class, one child's painting class, a homeschool art class and a children's sculpture class will be offered on a variety of days.

Education Report

Donna reported.

- Programming for the schools will begin again next semester.
- We are waiting to hear from the Kennedy Center. There were more applications than in previous years. Up to fourteen teams from across the country could be selected.

Buildings & Structures Report

Doreen reported.

- The new office furniture components from Kimball will be arriving soon. Preparations are being made to clear the room and remove old worn-out furniture. Doreen requested the credenzas and desks contained in the room be declared junk and be disposed of. A motion was made by **Myra Schuetter** that the desks and credenzas are worthless and considered as junk. **Gloria Buecher** seconded. Motion passed 9-0.
- Stage crew hours for Tom Sawyer, 35; Barrage, 67 and Oak Ridge Boys, 175 hours. Total volunteer hours including all JCAC volunteers to date are 601.5. If those hours are

multiplied by the national value of the volunteer hour (\$17.19), a total value of volunteer service would amount to \$10,339.78. These hours only include October-December of 2004.

Region 11 Report

Jill reported.

- The first payment (90%) to grantees has been distributed.
- Grantwriting workshops for the next grant cycle will be held in January and February.
- Copies of the Regional Arts Partnership grant applications will be available after January 7.
- Regional cultural planning is planned for 2005. More details to come at the next meeting.
- A new edition of pARTicipate will be out in January.
- The IAC is in town today to hold a workshop on e-grants for individual artists for FY2006. The workshop will be held in the Community Room from 7 to 9 pm. Individual artists apply directly to the IAC for funding. Last fiscal year, two artists from Region 11 received \$1000 each.

Darla reported .

- She gave an update on the status of changes being made to the next RAP biennial plan, the new funding formula and the Partnership Policy Manual. She and Jill attended a meeting with other regional partners and the IAC on November 15. The IAC operates with a 2 year budget in line with the state. Our application (Biennial Plan) will be due April 8. A draft copy of the application was shown to board members. She felt the regional partners were rushed to make a lot of decisions. The partners were divided on the issues, with some votes at 6 to 5. A copy of the funding formula was given to board members. All of the changes approved at the November 15th meeting will be presented to the IAC board in December for final approval. She noted that Region 11 will lose 5% from the regional block grant funds for redistribution. Arts Development Services (ADS) will remain at \$35,000. There will be an incentive fund and partners may apply for additional monies in this category. There will be a competitive review for partners who request additional ADS funds. The last category of Community Arts Program funds is the area Darla is most concerned about. These funds had been kept the same based on previous support from the IAC before the regional partnership was established and the JCAC applied directly to the IAC. Now all partners will be reviewed competitively for these funds. There will be no base amount. Our historic level had been maintained since 1997 at roughly \$41,000. A total of \$380,420 in funds will be available to all 12 partners. JCAC will now be competing with the Indianapolis Arts Council, Tippecanoe Arts Federation, Northern Indiana Arts Association, United Arts of Fort Wayne and other metropolitan areas. The IAC will bring in a panel of reviewers from the Midwest, and they will determine how much funding each partner will receive. Darla will provide updates as more information becomes available.

Performing Arts Report

Darla reported.

- The Performing Arts Committee is meeting on Thursday of this week at 4:30 pm. A good meeting was held last month with twenty people in attendance. Darla and Donna are checking on artists' availability, routing and fees. The committee will meet for the next several months to recommend a slate for the 2005-2006 season.
- She and Donna will be attending the Association of Performing Arts Presenters (APAP) conference in New York in January.
- Reported on the fabulous attendance at the Oak Ridge Boys' concerts. There were 690 people at the first performance and 650 at the second performance.
- Only single tickets and some temporary seats remain for the Chapin Family concert on January 29.
- Tickets for the Lettermen shows on February 12 continue to sell. Ten calls were received yesterday alone.

Marketing Report

Darla reported.

- The Marketing Committee met again this month and talked about a promotion for the Lettermen, such as selling tickets, flowers, candy, singing telegrams and have a package of some kind. They also discussed creating a special evening the night of the concerts by selling roses and/or chocolates and decorating. Since the last marketing committee meeting, Darla talked with the Downtown Merchants about developing a promotional giveaway to tie in with the Lettermen. She has also talked with Karen Dorrell of WITZ about some on-air promotions and providing a full hour of Lettermen music.
- The committee reviewed proposals from local artists to update and redesign the JCAC logo. They have selected Carla Hall of CH Designs and will meet with her the first of the year. The committee hopes to bring ideas to the Board at their February meeting.

Chalk Walk Report

Darla reported.

- Darla has met with the Downtown Merchants about next year's Chalk Walk. The committee would like to expand the offerings at the event and would like the Square to be closed to traffic for the day. Some Merchants would like to keep the Square open. Darla will meet again with the Merchants to seek support for the closing and then ask permission from the City of Jasper's Board of Public Works. The name of the event has been expanded to Chalk Walk Arts Festival.

OLD BUSINESS

Board Orientation/Job Description

Myra reported.

- She and Ann have been working on a board member job description. Discussion was held on the information submitted and some changes were made. The board will review the third draft version. The committee will bring back another revision to the January meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Nominating Committee Election of Officers

Jerry appointed the following board members to be on the nominating committee: Doug Abbett, Gloria Buecher and Robin Norris. They will give a report in January for the 2005 election of officers.

Announcements

Myra Schuetter and Sylvia Metzger have been re-appointed to serve another term of 4 years on the Board of Commissioners for the JCAC.

Adjournment

Myra Schuetter made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 pm, **Robin Norris** seconded. Motion passed 9-0. The next regular meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 4, 2005 at 4:30 pm.

Gerald Gagne, President

Don Routson, Secretary-Treasurer